

71493-750 /jpw

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

OPTICAL SWITCH WITH POWER EQUALIZATION

the specification of which

(check one) ☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____

as U.S. Application Serial No. _____

☐ was filed on _____

as PCT International Application No. _____

and (if applicable) was amended on _____

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to me which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §§1.56(a) and (b), which state:

- "(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application,
 - (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

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JAMES D. KOKONIS (Reg. No. 21178)
ALAN R. CAMPBELL (Reg. No. 26129)
NICHOLAS H. FYFE (Reg. No. 26134)
ROBERT D. GOULD (Reg. No. 27523)
THOMAS R. KELLY (Reg. No. 29244)
MICHAEL E. WHEELER (Reg. No. 29246)
DONALD F. PHENIX (Reg. No. 32528)
KOHJI SUZUKI (Reg. No. 44467)
YWE J. LOOPER (Reg. No. 43758)
R. JOHN HALEY (Reg. No. 29502)
RALPH A. DOWELL (Reg. No. 26868)

HUGH O'GORMAN (Reg. No. 26140)
R. ALLAN BRETT (Reg. No. 40476)
A. DAVID MORROW (Reg. No. 28816)
JAMES MCGRAW (Reg. No. 28168)
JOHN BOCHNOVIC (Reg. No. 29229)
JOY D. MORROW (Reg. No. 30911)
TOKUO HIRAMA (Reg. No. 32551)
PHILIP D. LAPIN (Reg. No. 44443)
GRANT W. LYNDY (Reg. No. 44484)
CHRISTINE N. GENGE (Reg. No. P-45405)
HANS KOENIG (Reg. No. P-46474)

PLEASE SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Customer No. 000293

DOWELL & DOWELL, P.C.
1215 Jefferson Davis Highway
Suite 309,
Arlington Virginia 22202-3124
U.S.A.
Telephone: (703) 415-2555
Facsimile: (703) 415-2559

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1) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Inventor's Name: Alan F. Graves
(First) (Middle) (Family Name)Country of Citizenship: CANADAResidence: Kanata, Ontario, Canada
(City, Province, Country)Post Office Address: 22 Appaloosa Drive, Kanata, Ontario, Canada K2M 1N7

2) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Inventor's Name: John Gerald Gruber
(First) (Middle) (Family Name)Country of Citizenship: CANADAResidence: Orleans, Ontario, Canada
(City, Province, Country)Post Office Address: 6355 Mattice Avenue, Orleans, Ontario, Canada K1C 2G1

3) INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Inventor's Name: Andrew John Bryant
(First) (Middle) (Family Name)Country of Citizenship: UNITED KINGDOMResidence: Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
(City, Province, Country)Post Office Address: 5 Abbots Way, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, UK CM23 4JE